Public Information Workshops

Proposed 2001 Willamette Reservoir Operations

April 24, 2001 - Eugene April 25, 2001 - Sweet Home April 26, 2001 - Stayton



Meeting Overview

- Introductions & Meeting Review
- Proposed 2001 Operating Plan
- Current River and Reservoir Conditions
- River & Reservoir Forecasts
- Special Considerations
 - Flow Requirements for Endangered Species NMFS
 - Reservoir Operations and Oregon Water Rights OWRD



Meeting Overview

- Special Considerations (continued)
 - Reservoir Operations and Water Quality ODEQ
 - NW Power Emergency and what it means for Willamette Projects BPA
 - Water Conservation Measures in an Extreme Low Water Year
- Questions/Discussions
- ∠ Adjourn



Willamette Basin Project, Oregon

13 Dams and Reservoirs

- 11 multiple-purpose
- 2 reregulating

Over 100 Miles of Bank Protection works

Navigation Channel, Mouth to Corvallis (135 miles)



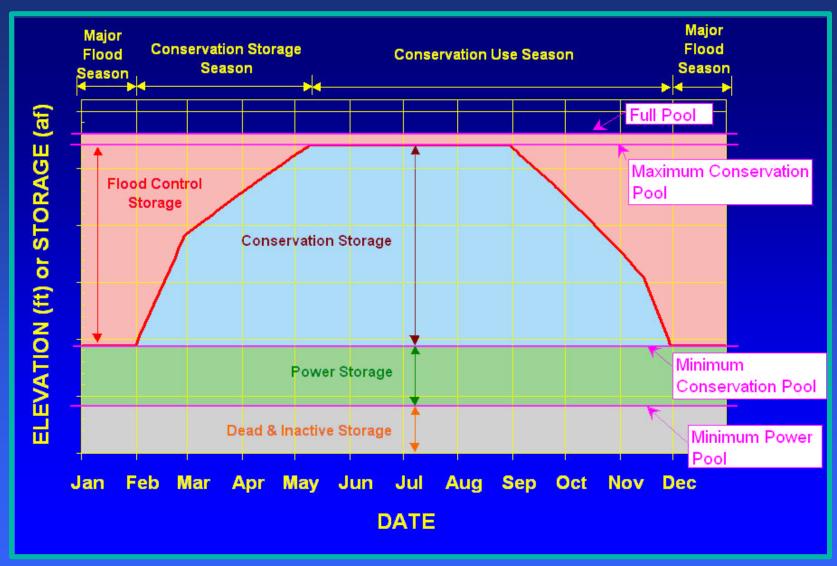


Authorized Purposes

- Fish & Wildlife
- ∠ Hydropower
- ∠ Irrigation
- Municipal & Industrial
- Navigation
- Recreation
- ∠ Water Quality

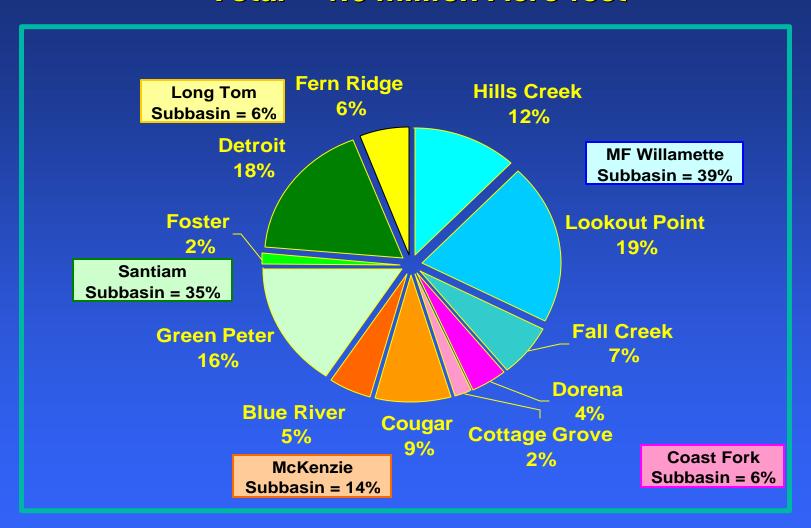


Multi-Purpose Reservoir Water Control Diagram





Willamette Conservation Storage Total = 1.6 million Acre-feet





Willamette Projects Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- Coordination Efforts
- Special Considerations
 - Extreme low water conditions
 - Endangered species
 - Water quality
 - NW hydropower emergency
 - ✓ Irrigation needs
 - Recreation
- ∠ Proposed Operating Criteria



Coordination Efforts

- Endangered Species Act, Section 7 Consultation
 - NMFS
 - **∠** USFWS
- Other Federal Agencies
 - USFS: National Forest land management
 - BPA: Hydropower
 - BuRec: Irrigation Contracts



Coordination Efforts

State Agencies

- Water Resources Department
- Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Department of Environmental Quality
- Department of Agriculture
- State Marine Board
- State Parks
- ✓ Governor's Office



Special Considerations Extreme Low Water conditions

2001 is the Second Driest Year on Record through 1 April

Precipitation: 58% of normal

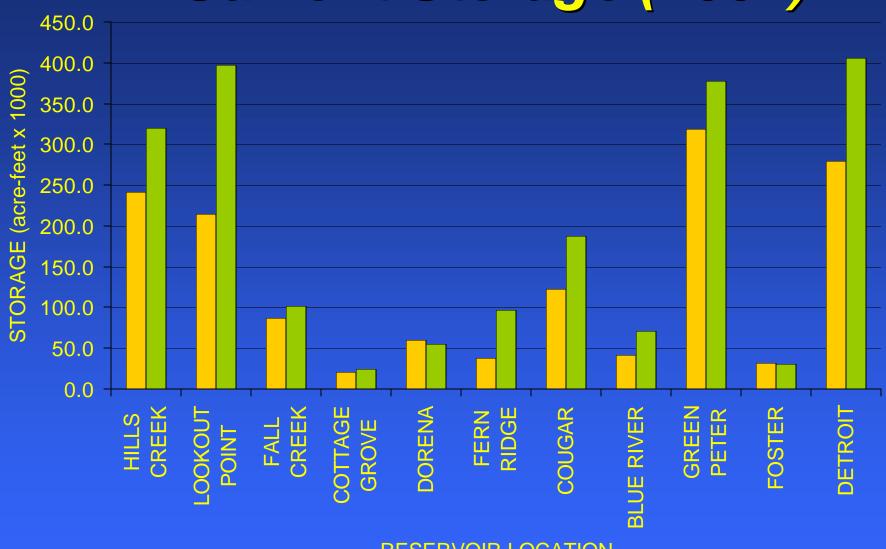
Snowpack: 66% of normal

Reservoirs storage:

- ∠ 62 % of rule curve
- 38 % Below the Rule Curve (Equates to 610,000 acre-feet)
- Total storage available for flow augmentation above Minimum Conservation Pool is 750,000 acre-feet
- The driest year, 1977, followed with an above normal wet spring and summer especially May
- Need 8 inches in May to catch up to 3rd worst year



Current Storage (2001)



RESERVOIR LOCATION



Special Considerations Endangered Species

- Spring Chinook
- Winter Steelhead
- **Bull Trout**
- Oregon Chub



Special Considerations Endangered Species

- Spring & Early Summer Fish Flow Targets
 - ✓ Initiated in 1999
 - Required to Support Juvenile Steelhead and Adult Chinook Migration
 - Studies by ODFW Show Increased Survival Under Higher Spring Flows
 - Requested by NMFS in Their Draft Biological Opinion



Special Considerations Endangered Species

- Oregon Chub Measures
 - Cannot maintain Lookout Point Lake at full until July 15
 - Middle Fork minimum flows from Dexter Dam maintained at 1100 cfs

Special Considerations Water Quality Concerns

- Reservoir flow augmentation is absolutely critical for public health and safety
 - Adequate dilution is required to assimilate pollutants and meet State standards
 - Summer augmented flows are approximately 200% of historic unregulated flows
- DEQ has requested discharge permitees to minimize impact of wastewater discharge



Special Considerations Water Quality Concerns

- Summer-Fall Mainstem Flow Augmentation Targets
 - DEQ accepted reduced Salem and Albany flow targets
- Coast Fork Willamette River
 - Maintain adequate storage in Dorena & Cottage Grove lakes to ensure minimum flow releases through summer and fall



Special Considerations Pacific Northwest Power Emergency

- BPA Declared Regional Power Emergency
 - Insufficient water to meet power needs and other activities-including fish spill
 - Maximize power generation capacity at all hydropower plants--including Willamette
 - Request to maintain full power pools at Willamette Projects until October



Special Considerations Irrigation Needs

- Existing Irrigation Contracts
 - ∠ 240 existing contracts, mostly for small amounts
 - Fully contracted amount: 57,000 acre feet
 - ✓ Most on Long Tom River: 25,000 acre feet
 - Base contracts acreage may be substantially less
 - Most contracted storage met in minimum streamflow releases from dams
 - ✓ We expect to be able to honor existing contracts
- Currently No Municipal and Industrial Contracts



Special Considerations Recreation

∠ Normal Operations

- Recreation is a high priority purpose of the Willamette Reservoirs
- Fern Ridge, Foster and Detroit filled and held as long as possible through summer
- Low priority recreation lakes (Lookout Point) drawn down first to meet water needs

Special Considerations Recreation

Extreme Dry Conditions

- Reservoir storage approximately 60% of normal
- ✓ Inadequate water available to fully meet all needs
- Recreation a lower priority than endangered species, water quality, hydropower and irrigation
- Storage from large reservoirs critical to meeting needs

Special Considerations Recreation

- Extreme Dry Conditions
 - Detroit, Green Peter and Fern Ridge lakes will not fill
 - ∠ Foster, Dexter and Dorena lakes will fill or will be close to it

Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- April 2001 Interim Guidelines
 - Maintain absolute minimum of 13,000 cfs
 - Match natural system inflows up to 20,500 cfs
 - Store system inflows above 20,500 cfs
 - Reservoir storage inadequate to continue as of April 15
- Mid-April to October Operating Plan



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- Operating Criteria
 - Mainstem Flow Augmentation @ Albany and Salem
 - April June salmon & steelhead targets
 - ∠ July October water quality targets
 - Minimum Tributary Instream Flows
 - ✓ Interim Draft Limits
 - Drawdown Priorities



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Spring - Early Summer Salmon & Steelhead Targets (at Salem)

Period

Apr 1 - Apr 15

Apr 16 - Apr 30

May 1 - May 31

June 1 - June 15

June 16 - June 30

ESA flow

Thresholds*

20,500 cfs

17,800 cfs

15,000 cfs

13,000 cfs

8,700 cfs

Planned

Flow Targets

13,000 - 20,500 cfs

15,000 cfs

15,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

^{*} Per NMFS draft Biological Opinion



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Summer - Fall Flow Augmentation Targets @ Albany

Period

July

August 1-15

August 16-30

September

October

Normal

Target

4,500 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

n/a

Planned

2001 Target

4,000 cfs

4,000 cfs

4,000 cfs

4,000 cfs

4,000 cfs



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Summer - Fall Flow Augmentation Targets @ Salem

Period

July

August 1-15

August 16-30

September

October

Normal

Target

6,000 cfs

6,000 cfs

6,500 cfs

7,000 cfs

n/a

Planned

2001 Target

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs

5,000 cfs



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- Operating Criteria
 - Mainstem Flow Augmentation @ Albany and Salem
 - April June salmon & steelhead targets
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Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Minimum Tributary Flows for Fish, Water Quality & Recreation

(June - October, cfs)

∠ Hills Creek 400 (300)

Lookout Point 1,000 (1,100)

Fall Creek 30-150

Cottage Grove 50

Z Dorena 100

∠ Cougar 400 (300)

∠ Blue River 50

✓ Fern Ridge 30-50

∠ Green Peter 50

∠ Foster 800-650

∠ Detroit 1000 (900)



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- Operating Criteria
 - Mainstem Flow Augmentation @ Albany and Salem
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 - Minimum Tributary Instream Flows
 - ✓ Interim Draft Limits
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Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Interim Draft Limits

What is an interim draft limit?

- Guideline for the amount of storage needed in the reservoirs to meet all flow requirement through September
- Represents the minimum elevation that a reservoir can go on to at particular time to and still have enough water saved for later use
- Raises a "red flag" that we need to adjust flows or face later shortages



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Interim Draft Limits

- Purpose & Objectives of interim draft limits
 - Balance water available for fish in early season with later season requirements
 - Estimate the amount of water in storage available to meet spring fish flow targets
 - Ensure adequate storage to meet:
 - Minimum project outflows
 - Mainstem flow augmentation targets at Albany and Salem
 - Regional power needs through fall



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan

- Operating Criteria
 - Mainstem Flow Augmentation @ Albany and Salem
 - April June salmon & steelhead targets
 - July October water quality targets
 - Minimum Tributary Instream Flows
 - ∠ Water for Out-of-Stream Needs
 - ✓ Interim Draft Limits
 - Drawdown Priorities



Proposed 2001 Operating Plan Reservoir Drawdown Priorities

(April -October)

Priority Normal Year 2001 (to date)

First: Lookout Point Detroit

Second: Cougar Green Peter

Third: Blue River Blue River

Fourth: Hills Creek Lookout Point

Fifth: Fall Creek,

Cottage Grove,

Dorena, Green Peter

Last: Fern Ridge, Foster,

Detroit

Hills Creek, Cougar

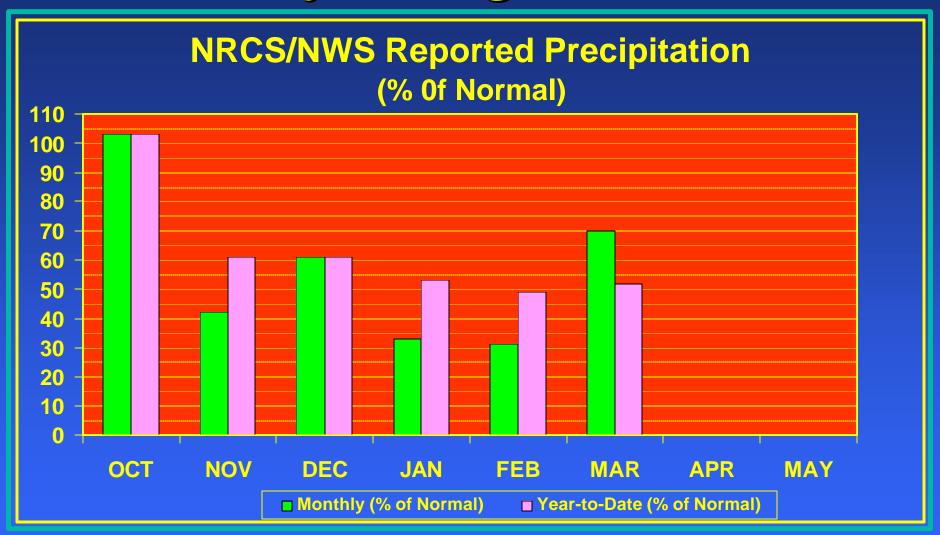
Fall Creek, Dorena,

Cottage Grove

Fern Ridge, Foster

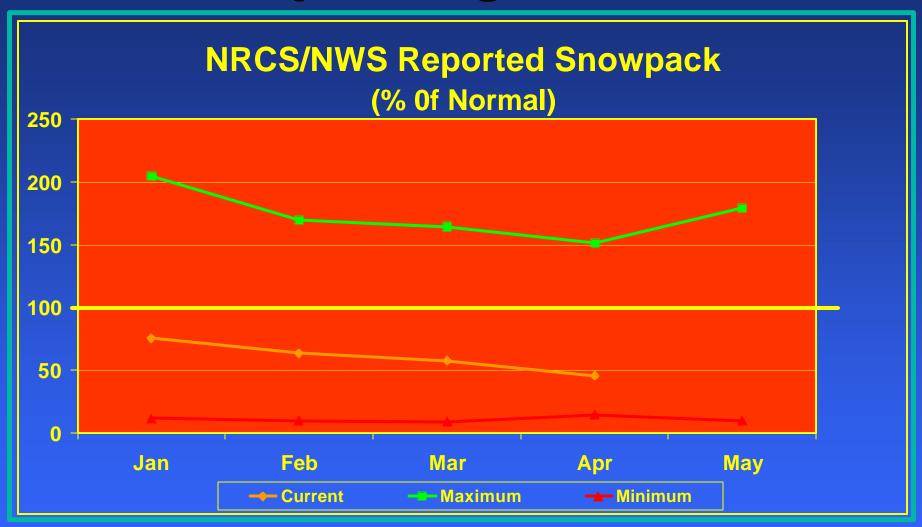


Current Hydrologic Conditions





Current Hydrologic Conditions





Current Hydrologic Conditions Unreg. Flows - Accum. Vol. (Percent of Avg.) As Of: 31 Mar 2001

LOCATION	ост	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR
McKenzie River @ Vida	87.7	59.8	53.9	49.8	48.0	51.4
N. Santiam @ Mehama	93.4	51.3	50.0	45.8	44.2	47.5
S. Santiam @ Waterloo	49.3	27.8	36.5	34.1	33.3	37.6
Willamette @ Salem	60.0	30.0	32.0	29.0	29.0	33.0

Forecast Point	Drier Co	rier Conditions		Less Dry Cond.	
Forecast Period	1000 af	% Avg	1000 af	% Avg	(1000 af)
DETROIT LAKE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	412	67%	458	74%	619
GREEN PETER INFLOW					
APR-SEP	223	63%	268	76%	352
FOSTER LAKE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	322	62%	392	75%	522



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Forecast Point	Drier Conditions		Less Dry Cond.		30 yr Avg
Forecast Period	1000 af	% Avg	1000 af	% Avg	(1000 af)
FOSTER LAKE INFLOW					
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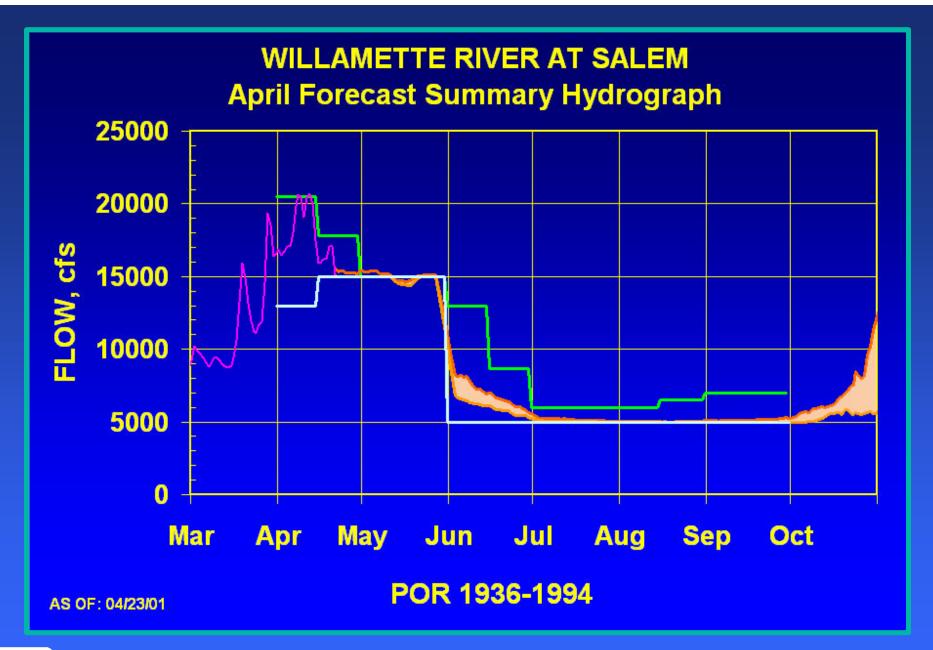
Forecast Point	Drier Conditions		Less Dry Cond.		30 yr Avg
Forecast Period	1000 af	% Avg	1000 af	% Avg	(1000 af)
FERN RIDGE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	13	35%	26	70%	37
HILLS CREEK INFLOW					
APR-SEP	79	59%	96	72%	134
LOOKOUT POINT INFLOW					
APR-SEP	517	66%	591	75%	788

Forecast Point Forecast Period	Drier Conditions		Less Dry Cond.		30 yr Avg
	1000 af	% Avg	1000 af	% Avg	(1000 af)
COUGAR LAKE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	147	65%	165	73%	227
BLUE RIVER INFLOW					
APR-SEP	51	59%	62	72%	86
DORENA LAKE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	70	55%	94	74%	127
COTT. GROVE INFLOW					
APR-SEP	20	50%	29	74%	39

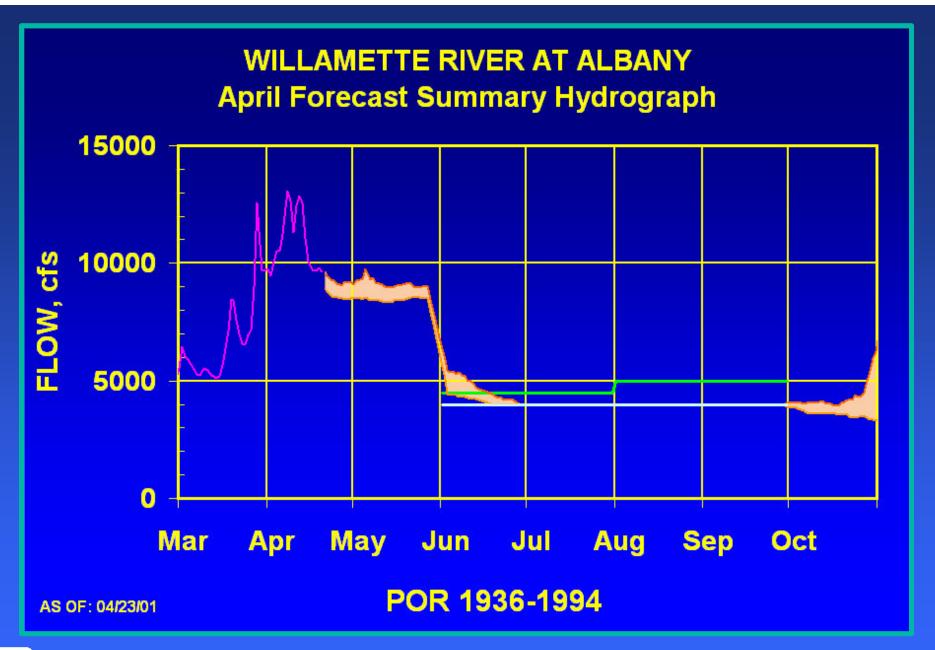


Forecast Analysis

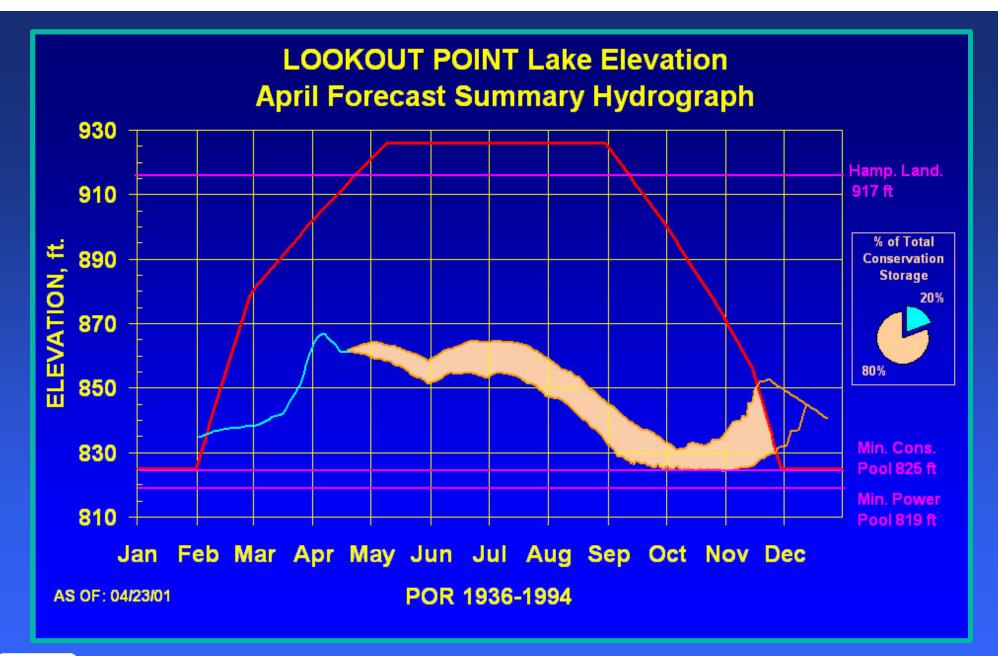
- Uses a Hydrologic Model of the Willamette Projects & the April NRCS/NWS Water Supply Forecast
- Simulates the Operation of the 13 Willamette Projects for Period of Record (59 Years)
- Operational Criteria Previously Discussed



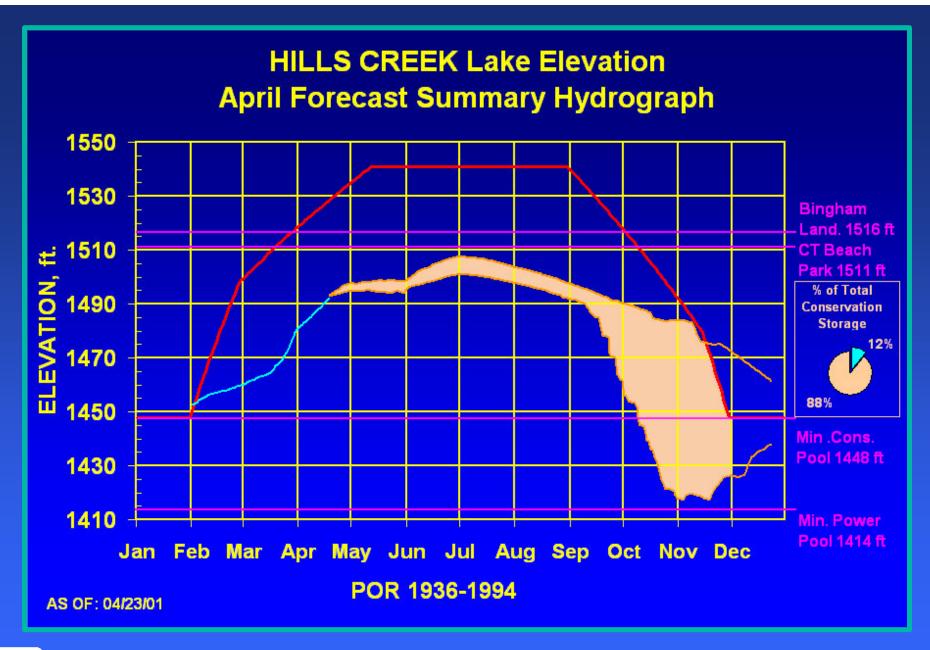






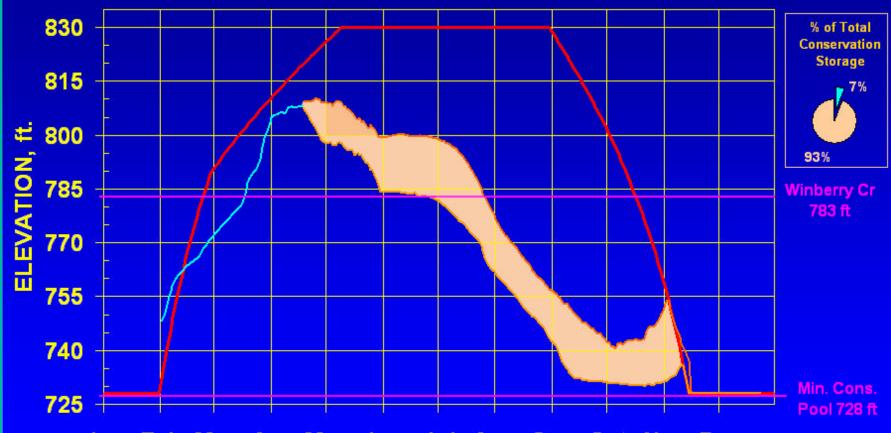












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